

(c) Action taken by Government on the proposals.

Proposals in respect of projects at Sr. Nos. 1 to 5, Sr. Nos. 10 to 13 were prioritized in consultation with State Government. Proposals in respect of projects which are identified /prioritized for development are required to be submitted by the State Government in prescribed format alongwith relevant information and documents.

Proposals in respect of identified projects which are complete in all respect are appraised on the basis of *inter-se* priority and CFA is sanctioned/released to the State Government subject to availability of funds. Proposal in respect of project at Sr. No. 1 has been sanctioned with Central Financial Assistance (CFA) component of Rs. 488.55 lakh. 1st instalment of Rs. 390.84 lakh has also been released to the State Government. Proposal for celebration of Maghey Mela (Sr. No. 13) has been sanctioned with CFA component of Rs. 5.00 lakh and 1st instalment of Rs. 4.00 lakh has been released to the State Government.

Promotion of tourism near archaeological sites

2245. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to make villages and minor towns to be made tourist attractions;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are giving thrust on tourism near archaeological sites on countryside;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether orchards are being developed near highways to encourage tourism; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The creation of infrastructure in Rural areas having potential for tourism is being supported under the existing scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destination and Circuit of Ministry of Tourism, while

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community participation and the capacity building including skill up-gradation in such rural areas are being supported through GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project and Capacity Building for Service Providers scheme of the Ministry.

The objective is to enable visitors to gain first hand experience of diverse rural life, art, culture and heritage at rural locations and in villages which have core-competency in terms of craft/handloom/textiles etc. and villages which fall on way to the popular tourist circuit and destinations.

(c) and (d) Development of Tourism near archaeological sites in the countryside is primarily the responsibility of the State/U.T. Governments. Ministry of Tourism provides Central Financial Assistance to States/U.Ts for development of projects prioritized in consultation with them under the existing scheme of Product/Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits.

(e) and (f) No such proposal is under consideration of the Ministry of Tourism.

Agreement for sharing of Ravi-Beas waters

2246. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per 1981 agreement for sharing of Ravi-Beas waters there is a provision "until such time Rajasthan is in position to utilize its full share, Punjab may utilize the waters surplus to Rajasthan's requirement"; and

(b) whether Rajasthan is in a position to utilize its full share of 8.6 MAF since 1991 and whether the Central Government intends to direct BBMB to restore remaining 0.60 MAF to Rajasthan, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The relevant